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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,317	07/12/2001	Tadahiro Ohata	450100-03327	1817

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MADELEINE ANH VINH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 05/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,317

Applicant(s)

OHATA ET AL.

Examiner

Madeleine AV Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-15, 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tijerino (US Patent No. 6,405,034).

Concerning claim 1, Tijerino discloses in Fig. 1 an on-demand image delivery server delivering image data (server 10) based on a request from a client terminal (communication device 40), said server having one or more retrieval items as a retrieval condition inputted from the client terminal (230, Fig. 2) comprising a retrieval function portion (100, Fig. 1) retrieving an image resource database (20, Fig. 1; col. 5, lines 21-28, lines 44-49); a result displaying function portion displaying a view of simplified image data of image data matching a retrieval condition and/or a data regarding a designated item among contents-related information attached to the image data (preference data, user's choice, a list of communication service choices from the server, information service options), on a screen of the client terminal, for confirmation of contents of image data to be delivered (270, Fig. 2; col. 5, lines 26-43); wherein the simplified image data is a function of capabilities of the client terminal, wherein the simplified image data is generated from original image data for displaying a retrieval result, and wherein the contents related information includes information with regard to location, object, situation and other user

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desired choices the retrieval result (Fig.2; Abstract; col. 3, lines 20-56; col. 4, lines 10-65; col. 5, lines 21-43; col. 6, lines 22-37, lines 56-65).

Tijerino fails to specifically teach the contents-related information includes information with regard to shooting method of the retrieval result. However, Tijerino includes different selection, preference or choices/options the user can select which do not exclude the shooting method. For instance, Tijerino teaches preference data stored in the communication device 40, communication service choices with major choices having different sub-menu according to user desired choices, a graphical user interface 60, user preference data and environmental data while the facilitator 100 can add historical suggestion data or a listing of the most widely accessed choices from a plurality of users (col. 3, lines 29-54; col. 5, lines 22-43). Tijerino further teaches that the communication device 40 has a graphical user interface 60 (Fig.1) which can be any graphical based program that allows input interaction from the user to choose (col. 3, line 55 – col. 4, line 9) and to perform highly personalized data retrieval; a positioning device 50 for other user desired choices enables position determination (col. 4, lines 42-65). In addition, Tijerino teaches that the user preference can include the user's favorite choices, redundant choices that the user has used on a recurrent basis, or any other criteria (col. 4, lines 10-26) and the environmental data can include data based on the position, time, temperature, weather, scheduling data or any other external information (col. 4, lines 27-42). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to add the "shooting method" in the content related information since Tijerino teaches a plurality of choices and reference the user from the communication device 40 and from the server without limiting any choice and noted that Tijerino usually adds "The major services choices will typically have sub-menus that

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allow the user to select a more detailed choice under the major service”, “any other desired choices”, “etc.” which allows the user to make highly personalized data retrieval in a quick, efficient and easy to use manner.

Concerning claims 2-9, and 18, Tijerino further teaches that the retrieval result displaying function portion determined the designated item based on a setting of an image source database (claim 2), (20, Fig.1; col. 5, line 22 – col. 6, line 4), a setting of a device (claim 3), (col. 5, lines 22-43), a setting of the client terminal (claim 4), (220, Fig.2); the contents-related information includes GPS information (claim 5), (col. 4, lines 43-65); the image data can be delivered to a client terminal distinct from a client terminal issuing a retrieval request, based on a request from the client terminal issuing said terminal request (claim 6); a retrieval item inputted from the client terminal includes position information and/or time information (claim 7); the simplified image of the image data matching the retrieval condition is mapped to a corresponding position on a map by using attached GPS information, and a result of the mapping is displayed on a screen of the client terminal (claims 8 and 18); the contents-related information of each image data is displayed according to a table form matching items subject to display (claim 9), (Fig.2; col. Col. 3, line 30 – col. 4, line 65; col. 5, line 21 – col. 6, line 65).

Concerning claim 10, Tijerino discloses an image resource database (10, 20, Fig.1) storing image data along with simplified data thereof and/or contents related information attached thereto, comprising a retrieval execution portion as discussed in claim 1 above.

Concerning claim 11, Tijerino discloses a client terminal (40, Fig.1) receiving from an on-demand image delivery server (10, Fig.1) and displaying on a screen, information on image data matching a retrieval condition (Fig.2) as discussed in claim 1 above.

Concerning claim 12, Tijerino discloses a server system (Fig.1) having an on-demand image delivery server (10) and an image resource database (20) wherein said on-demand image delivery server delivering image data based on a request from client terminal (40, Fig.1) as discussed in claim 1 above.

Concerning claim 13, Tijerino discloses a server system (Fig.1) having an on-demand image delivery server (10) and an image resource database (20) and a client terminal (40) wherein said on-demand image delivery server delivering image data based on a request from the client terminal (40) as discussed in claim 1 above.

Claims 14-15, 17 are method claims of apparatus claims 1, 10-13. Claims 14-15 and 17 are rejected for the same rationales set forth for claims 1, 10-13.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Hamano et al (US Patent No. 6,307,641) discloses an image information retrieving system on which a program performed by the system is recorded.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Madeleine AV Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272-7466. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Thursday 12:30-6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Madeleine AV Nguyen', written in a cursive style.

Madeleine AV Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2625

May 9, 2006